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Sec 5 Powers  
X Para 3 L. TITOV  
X Ag 2 U-2

## A TALE OF TWO PILOTS

Thurston N. Davis in America Magazine

Recently a convention of teachers heard editor Ralph McGill of the Atlanta Constitution compare Gherman Titov, latest Soviet cosmonaut celebrity, with Francis Gary Powers of U-2 fame.

Titov went to a little farm village, his talents were noticed and he was directed to higher studies in math and science. This product of the Soviet school system is today a national hero. No talent wasted. In educational shorthand, Titov is not a "drop-out."

Remember Powers, now in the second of ten years in a Moscow prison? He was no Nathan Hale at his trial. He said he had "never voted." He knew little of the meaning of his country; his defense was his total innocence: "I am just a pilot"—turned down for a job with a commercial air line, but getting \$30,000 a year from the CIA. He didn't know about the coming summit meeting in Paris. Someone else was responsible: "Blame those who sent me." Had young Powers been brainwashed? It didn't seem so. He didn't appear to need it.

McGill, in teacher language, called Powers "in a sense, a drop-out"—not really educated, part of the useless thing we call the American "mass audience," a fellow with a nice wife and a good-paying job, a "regular guy" who would rather watch "Gunsmoke" on TV than read all that tedious foreign news. But why single out poor Powers? Aren't there millions just like him—some right on your own college campus? Fine, clean-cut American boys, but potential "drop-outs."